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To: [R6 Superfund](#); [R6 6RC-S](#)
Subject: WAR Issues for Week of July 15, 2015
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**WEEKLY ACTIVITY REPORT
SUPERFUND DIVISION
JULY 15, 2015**

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NATIONAL BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCE: EPA Brownfields staff are gathering success stories and pictures from our grantees. These elements will be the basis of an electronic story wall, the focal point of the Region 6 booth. **(Talton x7205)**

SUPERFUND WEB CONTENT ARCHIVES: Region 6 Superfund Web staff is working with OEI over the next 4-6 weeks to archive web content. Superfund will only be archiving content that is subject to litigation hold. **(Talton x7205)**

ARKWOOD: The Superfund Community Involvement team is working with the FOIA team to answer a request by providing records on the numerous support tasks provided at the Arkwood site. **(Talton x7205)**

TRONOX GROUND WATER INVESTIGATION: On July 13, EPA contractor Weston Solutions mobilized to Grants, New Mexico, to begin Phase II of the ground water investigation. The objective is to fill data gaps and assess the environmental impacts from legacy uranium mining operations by furthering the evaluation of the alluvial ground water quality and initiating the evaluation of the Dakota Sandstone and San Andres-Glorieta limestone ground water quality within the San Mateo Creek Basin. As part of this investigation, over the next several months the team plans to install up to 14 alluvial monitoring wells, 7 monitoring wells at Dakota Sandstone and 1 monitoring well at San Andres-Glorieta. **(Banipal x7324)**

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GRANTS MINING DISTRICT'S 2nd 5 YEAR REVIEW: On July 15, 2015, the federal, state and tribal partners to the Grants Mining District Five-Year Plan met in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to discuss the second plan spanning 2015 to 2019. The 2015 Grants Mining District Plan identifies the five objectives (assessment of water sources potentially contaminated, assessment and cleanup of uranium mines, long-term stewardship of mill sites, assessment of residential structures and properties, and communication and coordination on community issues) with goals and specific actions identified by the partners. **(Banipal x7324)**

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM (IMT) EXERCISE: On July 14 and 15, staff from the Risk & Site Assessment Section participated as coaches to the Environmental Unit (EU) in an IMT exercise. The exercise simulated a response by the Region's IMT and EU to a hypothetical hurricane. The EU generated sampling plans for air, sediment, soil and surface water. Then the EU analyzed and to interpreted the results from the hypothetical sampling. The exercise allowed the EU and IMT to sharpen the skills needed to respond to a potential natural disaster in the future. **(Banipal, x7324)**

PARTIAL CONSENT DECREE NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHEVRON: On July 16, Superfund staff participated in Partial Consent Decree (CD) negotiations with Chevron and

the State of New Mexico for the cleanup of the Chevron Questa Mine. The Partial CD is for closeout and cleanup of the tailing facility portion of the mine. The negotiations focused on a proposed pilot to grade and cover a substantial area of the tailing facility with a two foot cover and evaluate the effectiveness of the two foot cover instead of the three foot cover specified in the Record of Decision. **(Banipal, x7324)**

CHEVRON QUESTA SUPERFUND SITE: EPA along with representatives from the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) met with Chevron Mining Inc. (CMI) on July 8, 2015. The meeting with CMI was a scoping meeting to plan Chevron Questa Mine tailing facility related vegetation and animal studies.

July 13 - 17, 2015: EPA along with representatives from the NMED and EMNRD met with CMI on July 16, 2015. The meeting with CMI was held to discuss groundwater and vegetation success standards for a proposed cover demonstration project at a portion of the Chevron Questa Mine tailing facility. EPA also participated in a pre-meeting with NMED and EMNRD representatives on July 14, 2015, to prepare for the July 16, 2015, meeting with CMI.

July 20 – 24, 2015: PA will attend the 19th meeting of the Technical Work Group (TWG) on July 23 - 24, 2015. The TWG which was formed by Chevron Mining Inc. in 2012 will continue their discussion of remedial design options for the interior waste rock piles at the Chevron Questa Superfund Site. Representatives from the NMED and EMNRD will also participate in the TWG meeting. **(Meyer, x6742)**

MALONE SERVICE COMPANY SUPERFUND SITE: The Malone Cooperating Parties (MCP – the PRPs) are presently conducting remedial action field activities. On June 16, 2015, the MCP, who were managing storm water at the Site, were directed by EPA Region 6 to cease injection of Site Storm water through the onsite hazardous waste injection well due to expiration of the EPA Underground Injection Control No Migration Petition. Through Superfund Division Director approval, the Region 6 Removal Program assumed injection operations to address potential releases of contaminated storm water from the Site's Solid Waste Management Units. Injection resumed under the authority of the Removal Program on July 6, 2015, and will continue until a Decision Document can be approved by EPA to allow the MCP to assume storm water management and injection operations. **(Meyer, x6742)**

SAN JACINTO RIVER WASTE PITS SUPERFUND SITE, CHANNELVIEW, TX:

Staff attended the Community Awareness Committee meeting on July 16, 2015. These meetings, generally held on a quarterly basis at the Harris County office in Pasadena, Texas, include staff from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Harris County, Port of Houston, and the Galveston Bay Foundation, as well as community representatives and others. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss community engagement issues and provide updates on site progress, including the recent cap inspection and ongoing work by the US Army Corps of Engineers. **(Meyer, x6742)**

SANDY BEACH SUPERFUND SITE REMEDIAL ACTION UPDATE: The soil vapor extraction system electrical connections were scheduled for completion the week of July 13, 2015, along with the remaining fittings for the condensate tank and the trench backfill. The treatment unit was delivered as a self-contained unit that was then connected to the piping manifold for the 28 extraction wells. All construction activities and system operations training on the unit are scheduled for completion by July 30, 2015. The pre-final inspection is scheduled for August 3, 2015, and the remedial action reports are scheduled for submittal on

August 28, 2015.
(Meyer, x6742)

NCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM (IMT) EXERCISE, ADDISON, TX: Region 6 conducted an Incident Management Team exercise July 14 – 16, 2015 at the COOP Warehouse in Addison, TX. The activities exercised all Key Leadership positions and support functions. A total of 36 EPA staff participated in this exercise. (Crossland, x2721)

TRONOX NAUM SECTION 35/36, AMBROSIA LAKE AREA, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NM: Field activity began on July 13 on the assessment activities on the former Rio Algom (Kerr McGee) uranium mines. Technical evaluation has been completed on the work plan for removal assessment and the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis. The signed access agreement has been received from Rio Algom, which gives EPA access to the mine sites in Ambrosia Lake Area. Also EPA OSC will be meeting with the New Mexico State Land Office on July 16 to obtain access to State of New Mexico Land adjacent to Section 35. (Crossland, x2721)

MALONE CAMPBELL ROAD FACILITY, TEXAS CITY, GALVESTON COUNTY, TX: On July 6, 2015, FOSC initiated an emergency pump down of contaminated storm water at the facility which was authorized by the R6 Superfund Division Director. The initiation of emergency actions were necessary to abate the imminent and substantial threat of discharge of several hundred thousand gallons of contaminated storm water located on the Site from several multi-inch rainfalls associated with Tropical Storm Bill and other sub-tropical weather fronts that had impacted the Site during May and June of 2015. On-site disposal Well 138 began operations on July 6, during normal site operations hours (approximately 10 hours per day). Due to the exigencies of the situation, the FOSC requested that the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) steering group which is operating the well, to increase the injection hours to 24 hours per day. The PRPs agreed and brought in additional personnel to increase the operational hours to 24 per day beginning on July 10. The FOSC also authorized the operation of the additional injection well on the facility, Well 73, to further facilitate the rapid and efficient removal of contaminated storm water from the facility, based on the exigencies of the situation. Well 73 is expected to come on line by July 17 once a new data logger is installed. (Crossland, x2721)

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